

North Carolina  
National Register Advisory Committee  
Minutes  
June 12, 2014

The North Carolina National Register Advisory Committee (NRAC) met on June 12, 2014, in the conference room on the third floor of the Cultural Resources Building (formerly the Archives and History/State Library Building), 109 East Jones Street, in downtown Raleigh. Committee members in attendance were: Mrs. Millie Barbee, chair, Mr. David R. Black, Mr. Samuel B. Dixon, Mr. George W. Edwards, Dr. Valerie Johnson, Mr. John Larson, Dr. Richard D. Starnes, and Dr. Linda F. Stine. Committee members Dr. Edmond A. Boudreaux, Ms. Wendy Grady, and Ms. Jo Ramsay Leimenstoll were absent.

State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) staff members present were: Ramona Bartos, deputy state historic preservation officer; Claudia Brown, Survey and National Register Branch supervisor; Jessica Dockery, National Register and survey specialist; Jannette Coleridge-Taylor, National Register assistant; Chandrea Burch, file and photography clerk; Kyle Obenauer, intern; Scott Power, Eastern Office supervisor; Jamie Dail, Eastern Office intern; Annie McDonald, preservation specialist, Western Office; Mitch Wilds, Restoration Services Branch supervisor; Paul Fomberg, senior restoration specialist; and Tim Simmons, senior staff architect.

Visitors in attendance included Lawrence Abbott, National Register coordinator, and Helena Aros, intern, with the Office of State Archaeology; Mary Pope Furr, North Carolina Department of Transportation; Martha Lauer and Emily Ander, Raleigh Historic Development Commission; property owners Deborah Ross, Terry Marcellin-Little, and James Wrenn; and consultants Mary Ruffin Hanbury and Cynthia de Miranda.

Mrs. Barbee called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. with welcoming comments. She then asked Dr. Kevin Cherry for his report.

Dr. Cherry began by commending Ramona Bartos for her efforts to save the historic preservation tax credits through months of preparing reports and attending meetings with staff of the Office of State Budget, Department of Commerce, and Governor's Office in order to persuade the Governor to put the credits on his agenda. When the Governor supported a revised tax credit program, Department of Cultural Resources (DCR) staff members were permitted to talk to legislators about the program. He explained that the Senate declined to support the program and despite good support in the House, a handful of powerful House members remained opposed; due to an outcry from across the state, however, an amendment establishing a new tax credit program was added to the budget, which still had to go to the conference committee. Dr. Cherry predicted that ultimately there would be a new tax credit program, due to the work of HPO staff and support from all across the state, and he thanked Ms. Bartos for coordinating the effort.

Dr. Cherry then reported on three Office of Archives and History exhibits:

- Through collaborative efforts across divisions and sections, a successful tour of a Thirteenth Amendment exhibit to several State Historic Sites was launched.
- The *Queen Anne's Revenge* traveling exhibit was winding down to a close at its final stop in Bath, beginning with a preview event that evening.
- The Watergate exhibit at the Museum of History has been extremely successful and will become a traveling exhibit.

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Dr. Cherry concluded his report by noting that DCR was hit hard with the elimination of the Publications Section in the Senate budget, although four of the section's positions were restored in the House budget for transfer elsewhere in the department and he expected they will remain in the final budget.

Ms. Bartos began her report by crediting the entire HPO staff, particularly the Restoration Services Branch, for their support of efforts to save the preservation tax credits, especially through their prompt response to questions from other department staff and legislators. She thanked Dr. Cherry and the entire DCR management team headed by Secretary Kluttz, whom she said is a strong advocate for historic preservation. Ms. Bartos also commented on the supportive editorials in newspapers across the state and thanked committee members who advocated on behalf of DCR. She added that feedback from legislators has been largely positive due to contact from their constituents about specific projects and she is hopeful that an amendment adding the Governor's tax credit program to the House budget would survive the conference committee.

Ms. Bartos then reported several additional items:

- Over the last two years, there has been an increase of about twenty percent in the number of environmental review projects submitted to the HPO. Environmental review coordinator Renee Gledhill-Earley has been reviewing all projects in the absence of an environmental review specialist, but the specialist position should be filled soon.
- Visits to the North Carolina Congressional delegation in March have yielded fruit: Representative McHenry is interested in historic preservation and was impressed by the Gaston Memorial Hospital tax credit project, now Highland Memorial Apartments, in Gastonia, which he toured with HPO staff and others at his request for a site visit.
- The latest issue of *Early American Life* magazine features a lengthy article on Eastern Office restoration specialist Reid Thomas and his wife's restoration of their home, the Ballard-Salsbury House in Martin County.
- HPO intern Kyle Obenauer, a University of Vermont graduate student, whom Ms. Bartos introduced, is preparing a multiple property documentation form on North Carolina's Rosenwald schools, among numerous tasks he is undertaking related to the HPO's initiative to preserve the schools.
- The Eastern Office also has a summer intern, Jamie Dail, a graduate student at the Savannah College of Art and Design, whom Scott Power introduced.

After Ms. Bartos completed her report, Dr. Cherry conducted a ceremony recognizing Mr. Black and Mr. Larson, who were rotating off the NRAC on June 30, 2014, upon completing their third consecutive two-year term. Dr. Cherry presented Mr. Black and Mr. Larson with gifts and certificates and noted that during their service, the NRAC reviewed 220 National Register nominations and approved 414 properties for the Study List. Mrs. Barbee expressed her appreciation for their years of service. Mr. Larson said that he has been amazed by the wealth of architectural history that continues to come before the NRAC after so many years and that it is a great credit to the people doing the work in the field and to HPO staff. Mr. Black said that he enjoyed seeing all of the properties and the people associated with them.

Dr. Stine invited everyone to the House in the Horseshoe on June 14 when UNC-Greensboro and Office of State Archaeology teams will be doing remote sensing and limited excavation. Dr. Cherry added his appreciation for the project and noted that the site was identified in the Senate budget to be closed and consequently State Historic Sites asked partners at OSA and UNC-Greensboro to accelerate the project in order to demonstrate the importance of the site. He added that remote sensing for pieces of the *CSS Neuse* in the Neuse River was undertaken in April but was unsuccessful due to river conditions and will be attempted again in July. Deputy state archaeologist Dolores Hall said that Dr. Boudreaux was absent from the NRAC meeting because he was excavating at Town Creek Indian Mound.

Mrs. Barbee reported that Western Office staff Annie McDonald and Jennifer Cathey invited her to a site visit in Alleghany County and that Ms. McDonald also presented a program for the West Jefferson United Methodist Church's organization, Methodist Men, which provided an opportunity for Mrs. Barbee to solicit funds for the Ashe County architectural survey publication.

Mrs. Barbee asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2014, NRAC meeting. Upon a motion by Dr. Starnes, seconded by Mr. Black, all voted to approve the minutes.

Consideration of National Register nominations began with a presentation by Annie McDonald of three nominations for western region properties (see attached agenda). After Ms. McDonald presented the nominations for properties in Ashe and Buncombe counties, Dr. Starnes announced that he had a potential conflict of interest regarding the Downtown Sylva Historic District. Mrs. Barbee called for a motion on the Ashe County and Buncombe County nominations. Mr. Larson moved for approval of the two nominations, Dr. Starnes seconded the motion, and all voted for it. After Dr. Starnes left the room, Ms. McDonald presented the nomination for the Downtown Sylva Historic District. Mr. Dixon moved for approval of the nomination, Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Dr. Starnes returned to the meeting.

Scott Power presented three nominations for eastern region properties (see attached agenda). After he presented the nomination for Craven Terrace, Mrs. Barbee asked if the decorative bas relief panels were designed by Works Progress Administration (WPA) artists. Mr. Power replied that they appear to be similar in style and craftsmanship to earlier WPA work, but he did not know of a direct relationship. Mr. Edwards asked about the motivation for the Craven Terrace nomination. Mr. Power explained that he was making the presentation for John Wood, who reviewed the nomination and could not attend the NRAC meeting, and thus was not certain, but he thought a redevelopment of the apartment complex was planned. Mr. Black stated that he has long admired the complex, built in the first phase of public housing, because it was built to the high modern housing standards. Mr. Power agreed that the work of architect Mitchell Wooten was superb. After Mr. Power completed his presentation, the committee approved the three nominations unanimously upon a motion made by Dr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Black.

Consideration of nominations for properties in the central and southeastern region of the state commenced with Jessica Dockery's presentation of four nominations, followed by seven presented by Claudia Brown on behalf of Ann Swallow, who was attending a professional conference (see attached agenda). At the end of Ms. Dockery's presentation of the nomination for Gibsonville School, Mr. Black referred to a documentary photograph of the school and asked if entire bays of windows (windows in each of two stories and the spandrel in between) had been replaced. Ms. Dockery explained that all of the windows had been replaced but the brick

spandrels in between the first- and second-story windows remain behind modern panels. When she completed her presentation of Harnett County Training School, Mr. Larson asked why the boiler room building was classified as noncontributing, to which Ms. Dockery replied that it dates to within the period of significance for the property but has experienced considerable loss of integrity.

When Ms. Brown finished presenting the balance of the central and southeastern region nominations, Mr. Black stated that the new site of the Merrimon-Wynne House in Raleigh is nothing like the original site and that he was disappointed that the nomination preparer did not recognize the machine aesthetic of the decoration that is represented by the gear motifs that have been mistaken for sunflowers. He added that all of the house's decoration executed in wood in imitation of cast iron work is quirky and amazing and he wished he knew its design source. Dr. Stine asked if the standard paragraph on archaeology had been inserted in the Merrimon-Wynne House nomination, to which Ms. Brown replied in the affirmative. Mr. Larson stated that he is skeptical of the eighteenth-century construction date given for the Waller House and wished the owner of the property would commission a dendrochronology study to determine the precise date. Dr. Stine made a motion to approve the eleven nominations for central and southeastern region properties, Dr. Johnson seconded it, and all voted for approval. The committee then recessed for lunch, at 12:15 p.m.

When the committee reconvened at 12:55 p.m., consideration of Study List applications began with a presentation by Ms. Dockery of the Gibsonville Hosiery Mill in Alamance County, during which she explained that staff recommended denial due to extensive alterations. Ms. Brown then presented eight additional applications for central and southeastern properties, four that she had reviewed and four reviewed by Ms. Swallow (see attached agenda). During her presentation, she explained that staff recommended approval of all except for the General Robert F. Hoke Cottage in Lincoln County due to lack of significance and that two properties were recommended for approval provided conditions are met before a nomination is submitted: the John Lewis Terrell House in Wake County, provided the two-tiered front porch is restored; and the George Elias Nissen House in Forsyth County, provided the vinyl siding is removed and the property is graded so that less of the front foundation is exposed.

After Ms. Brown presented the Study List application for Chavis Park in Raleigh, Dr. Johnson asked if Helen Chavis had been interviewed. Consultant Mary Ruffin Hanbury, who prepared the application on behalf of the Raleigh Historic Development Commission, introduced Martha Lauer, executive director of the commission, and commission intern Emily Ander. They explained that ten older African American citizens very familiar with the park had been interviewed, but Helen Chavis was not among them. Dr. Johnson referred them to a historian in Oxford who has amassed Chavis family documents. Regarding the George Elias Nissen House, Mr. Black noted that it looks like a plate in one of William H. Ranlett's books of house designs and that there is a house in Hillsborough built according to that particular design.

Mrs. Barbee asked for a motion on the nine Study List applications for properties in the central and southeastern regions. Dr. Starnes moved for approval of staff recommendations, Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

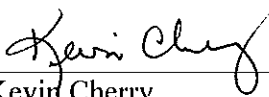
Ms. McDonald proceeded to present five Study List applications for western region properties (see attached agenda), during which she explained that staff recommended approval of all five,

but two were recommended provided conditions are met before a nomination is submitted: the Charles Vance House in Buncombe County, provided the asbestos siding is removed and the original wood siding restored; and the Downtown Tryon Commercial District, provided the Tryon Federal complex comprising three building is rehabilitated. Regarding the Charles Vance House, Dr. Cherry questioned its National Register eligibility due to the loss of the balcony that had been set into the wraparound porch roof. Ms. McDonald explained that the porch is so large that the balcony was relatively small in comparison to the whole. Mr. Edwards questioned the condition that the asbestos shingles be removed from the Charles Vance House. Ms. Brown explained that replacement siding is allowed for buildings eligible under Criterion C for architecture only if there is extensive exterior decoration and the replacement material covers only original weatherboards, whereas the Vance House exterior does not have rich ornament that would mitigate the asbestos shingles. Upon a motion made by Mr. Black and seconded by Mr. Edwards to approve staff recommendations, all voted to approve the motion.

Mr. Power presented two Study List applications for eastern region properties, noting that staff recommended approval of both (see attached agenda). At the end of the presentation, Mr. Black commented on the alterations to the Bissette House in Bailey, Nash County, and questioned its National Register eligibility for architectural significance. Mr. Power agreed that there have been quite a few alterations, each relatively minor, but the house nevertheless is the most architecturally important building in the small town. Mr. Black made a motion to place the New Bern Historic District Boundary Increase II on the Study List and to deny the application for the Bissette House. Mr. Edwards asked if the Bissette House would be a contributing resource in a historic district and if staff could encourage the community to endorse a Study List application for a district. Mr. Power replied that it certainly would be a contributing resource in a district but he has no idea if the property owner or town government would have any interest in funding a district nomination. Dr. Stine asked if the Bissette House owners would do the research necessary to provide additional history of the property. Ms. Brown suggested that the committee could defer a decision on the Bissette House pending additional information about the property. Mr. Edwards stated that the house has had numerous alterations that individually seem minor but altogether are problematic for individual eligibility and added that deferral also could provide time to explore the possibility of an application for a district encompassing the house. Mr. Black amended his motion to approve the New Bern Historic District boundary Increase II and defer a decision on the Bissette House pending an attempt to gather additional information that might enhance a case for individual eligibility and exploration of local support for a district encompassing the house. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

After thanking the committee and staff for their work, Mrs. Barbee adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Kevin Cherry  
State Historic Preservation Officer

KC/cp  
Attachment

NATIONAL REGISTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
Conference Room, Third Floor, Archives and History Building  
June 12, 2014

Final Agenda

| COUNTY | PROPERTY/LOCATION | PRESENTER |
|--------|-------------------|-----------|
|--------|-------------------|-----------|

**NATIONAL REGISTER**

**SURVEY AND NATIONAL REGISTER BRANCH**

***Western Region***

|          |  |                |
|----------|--|----------------|
| Ashe     | Clark – Miller Roller Mill<br>Lansing vicinity                                     | Annie McDonald |
| Buncombe | West Asheville – Aycock School<br>Historic District Boundary Increase<br>Asheville |                |
| Jackson  | Downtown Sylva Historic District<br>Sylva  |                |

***Eastern Region***

|           |  |             |
|-----------|--|-------------|
| Craven    | Craven Terrace<br>New Bern                         | Scott Power |
| Greene    | Hardee House<br>Ormondsville vicinity              |             |
| Edgecombe | William and Susan Savage House<br>Leggett vicinity |             |

***Central and Southeastern Regions***

|          |  |                 |
|----------|--|-----------------|
| Columbus | Black Rock Plantation House<br>Riegelwood vicinity | Jessica Dockery |
| Guilford | Gibsonville School<br>Gibsonville                  |                 |
| Harnett  | Harnett County Training School<br>Dunn             |                 |
| Randolph | Acme – McCrary Hosiery Mills<br>Asheboro           |                 |
| Davie    | Cooleemee Mill Town Historic District<br>Cooleemee | Claudia Brown   |

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Forsyth  | Waller House<br>Pfafftown vicinity                     |
|          | Thurmond and Lucy Hanes Chatham House<br>Winston-Salem |
|          | Reynolds Building<br>Winston-Salem                     |
| Guilford | Carolina Cadillac Company Building<br>Greensboro       |
| Sampson  | Thomas Bullard House<br>Hayne vicinity                 |
| Wake     | Merrimon – Wynne House<br>Raleigh                      |

## **STUDY LIST**

### **SURVEY AND NATIONAL REGISTER BRANCH**

#### ***Central and Southeastern Regions***

|          |  |                 |
|----------|--|-----------------|
| Alamance | Gibsonville Hosiery Mill<br>Gibsonville          | Jessica Dockery |
| Durham   | Stanford Warren House<br>Durham                  | Claudia Brown   |
| Stanly   | Richfield Milling Company<br>Richfield           |                 |
| Wake     | John Chavis Memorial Park<br>Raleigh             |                 |
|          | John Lewis Terrell House<br>Rolesville           |                 |
| Forsyth  | George Elias Nissen House<br>Lewisville          |                 |
| Guilford | James H. and Annie B. Willis House<br>Greensboro |                 |
| Lincoln  | General Robert F. Hoke Cottage<br>Lincolnton     |                 |

Mecklenburg

R. F. Outen Pottery  
Matthews

***Western Region***

Buncombe County

Charles Vance House  
Black Mountain

Annie McDonald

Haywood County

Green Hill Cemetery  
Waynesville

Henderson County

Dillard and Georgia Sewell House  
Penrose vicinity

Polk County

Downtown Tryon Commercial District  
Tryon

Tryon Hand Weavers  
Tryon

***Eastern Region***

Craven County

New Bern Historic District Boundary  
Increase II  
New Bern

Scott Power

Nash County

Bissett House  
Bailey